

## **Safety Recommendation A-67-16**

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued Safety Recommendation A-67-16 to the Federal Aviation Administration on April 17, 1967, as a result of the NTSB's investigation of aircraft passenger evacuation hazards. Recently we have received several letters from airline passengers pertaining to aircraft evacuation hazards they have observed on different flights. The letter from Mr. T. D. Collins is an example and is enclosed for your information. One problem mentioned is that quite often a seat is located directly in front of the over-wing window exits. The emergency information cards do not indicate and flight attendants do not explain what should be done with the seat in order to open the window in the event of emergencies requiring aircraft evacuation. Even if adequate information were printed on or adjacent to the window itself, valuable time would be lost trying to read it in event of an emergency. Furthermore, the individuals concerned may be in a dazed condition from the force of impact and/ or lighting conditions may preclude reading. Another problem mentioned by Mr. Collins is that the overhead exit signs are sometimes placed in the wrong position and/or sometimes the partitions between the first-class compartment and the tourist compartment hide the window exits from view of the tourist compartment. The text of Safety Recommendation A-67-16 is as follows:

To the Federal Aviation Administration: It is recommended that all passengers be made aware of the procedures required to move the seats out of the way of the window exits. Further, it is recommended that airlines utilizing movable partitions between passenger compartments assure that the overhead signs are properly placed to depict the exact location of the window exits and that the flight attendants be required to indicate where each emergency exit is located during the pre-takeoff briefing.